

## Karel Eringa

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**From:** Karel Eringa [karel@shelterwa.org.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 August 2004 12:43  
**To:** Karel Eringa  
**Subject:** [SWA Update] Shelter WA Housing News: 19 August 2004

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Shelter WA Housing News: 19 August 2004

In this issue:

1. Report: Australia violates International Human Right to Housing
2. Event: Shelter WA / Tenants Advice Service AGM

### 1. Report: Australia violates International Human Right to Housing

A project investigating the human right to housing has found that Australia is in breach of its international housing rights obligations. The 'Housing is a Human Right Project' examined the human right to housing in Australia in an international law context and released its findings yesterday in a report entitled 'The Human Right to Housing in Australia'.

The report's main conclusion is that while Australia has ratified most of the relevant international treaties, it "lags behind much of the rest of the world in many facets of its implementation of these housing rights obligations." In examining Australia's record, it concludes that "Australia's implementation of its housing rights obligations has been marked by an aversion to the language of rights, inadequate funding, and above all a failure to rectify the widespread and worsening violations of the right to adequate housing. There can be little doubt that Australia is in violation of its international housing rights obligations".

The project will now develop a Charter of Housing Rights for Victoria and finally hear and compile testimonies from people whose housing rights have been violated at a Housing Rights Tribunal, to be held in early 2005.

Go to [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au) (new on this site) to download the paper.

### 2. Event: Shelter WA / Tenants Advice Service AGM

Shelter WA and the Tenants Advice Service will hold their respective Annual General Meetings on Wednesday 27 October. Details are as follows:

2.30pm - 4.30pm, Wednesday 27 October  
Derbarl Yerrigan Conference Room  
156 Wittenoom Street  
East Perth

Afternoon tea will be provided. Members are requested to ensure that they are financial and to RSVP to Corinne Mercer (corinne@shelterwa.org.au or 08 9325 6660) by Monday 25 October for catering purposes.

Go to [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au) (membership) to apply for membership online.

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SWA Update gives fortnightly updates on housing issues in Western Australia.

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